

## 2015-J2799

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending The Reverend Louis Vasile upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester on June 14, 2015

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in this noble Empire State is nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who would commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those individuals who distinguish themselves and the ministry through their unremitting commitment and preeminence of service; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend The Reverend Louis Vasile upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, to be celebrated at a party held in his honor on Sunday, June 14, 2015; he will officially retire on June 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Born to Regina E. and Louis J. Vasile, Louis Vasile was the brother of Rosalie and Gerry; and

WHEREAS, At the young age of seven years old, Louis Vasile knew he wanted to become a Priest; after graduating from both St. Francis of Assisi School and Mount Carmel High School, Auburn, New York, he attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries in Rochester, New York; and

WHEREAS, On April 8, 1972, Louis Vasile was ordained in the Priesthood by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Auburn, New York; and

WHEREAS, After his ordination, Father Louis Vasile served as Assistant

Pastor at several churches, including St. Philip Neri, Rochester, New York; St. Christopher, North Chili, New York; and St. Patrick, Corning, New York; as well as St. Lawrence, Greece, New York; and

WHEREAS, For four years, Father Louis Vasile held the position of Priest Secretary to Bishop Matthew H. Clark; in this capacity, he coordinated the Bishop's schedule and traveled with him to various parishes throughout the 12 counties of the Diocese of Rochester for confirmations and other liturgical celebrations; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, Father Louis Vasile was appointed Pastor of the clustered parishes of St. Anne in Palmyra and St. Gregory in Marion, New York, which were two of the first clustered parishes in the diocese; and

WHEREAS, After leaving those parishes in 1992, Father Louis Vasile spent a year serving other parishes in need of temporary leadership before becoming Pastor of Church of the Resurrection in Fairport in 1993; he remained in this position until 1998, when he was selected as Pastor at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Under Father Louis Vasile's luminous leadership, the congregants of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church provided more than 3,000 pounds of donated goods to Give to the World, an organization which distributes collected items to the neediest people of the Dominican Republic, Afghanistan and throughout the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, St. Alphonsus Catholic Church has sent money to the Maria Immaculata Daycare, located in the impoverished area of Hato Nuevo, Dominican Republic; the donations help change the lives of the children by providing funds to feed, educate, and provide clothing; and

WHEREAS, Since 2000, Father Louis Vasile has held the title of President of Auburn's St. Joseph Cemetery Board of Directors; in addition, he has been a vital member of several boards including St. Joseph's Advi-

sory Board, the Diocesan School Board, and the Pastoral Planning Board, as well as the Board of Directors of both Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes, and Mercy Health and Rehabilitation Center in Auburn; and

WHEREAS, Father Louis Vasile is an active supporter of his local fire-fighters, law enforcement, and health care personnel; he also volunteers his time and energies to St. Matthew's House Hospice; and

WHEREAS, For his invaluable service to not only the community of Auburn, but throughout the World, Father Louis Vasile has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades such as the Reverend John C. Humphrey Religious Service Award; he was also recognized by the Catholic Charities Board and the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Louis Vasile has brought to his ministry an overwhelming spirit of charity and compassion, acting from vision and enlightenment in conducting his administrative and spiritual duties, while always displaying the highest standards of personal and professional integrity and dedication; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man of God has always given enlightenment, guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and has administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of all; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend The Reverend Louis Vasile upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, noting his unremitting and compassionate faith and his exemplary service to God, man, and his community, and extending to him the heartfelt best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Louis Vasile.